

Southeast News

PUBLISHED BY THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

VOLUME 24

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SEC in Chattanooga for 1975; Midway-Savannah for 1976

Preparation for the Southeast Conference meeting of the United Church of Christ in Chattanooga next spring was a major item on the Board of Directors' agenda in Savannah, Sept. 22-23, 1974. Dr. David L. Beebe was appointed program chairman for 1975.

Plans were also set for the 1976 conference meeting in Savannah and at historic Midway Congregational Church, near Savannah.



MIDWAY CHURCH, GA.

Meditation at Ala-Tenn Association, Cullman, Ala.

In our Lord Jesus Christ's advice, teachings, and commandments — we see that His pronouncements were words of action.

Go, come, do, serve!

In the 9th chapter of the Gospel according to St. Luke, he tells us that there are those who think they would like to be disciples of Jesus BUT with some conditions, YET Jesus says (V.62)—“No man having put his hand to the plough and looking back is fit for the Kingdom of God.”

Those who have gone before us, (our Christian fore-bearers) rose to the challenge of their times in the establishment of Christ's Kingdom in this southern area. This, our host church, has served Cullman and throughout the world for 100 years!!!

Recently the Bd. of Directors of the Southeast Conference met at the old “Midway Cong'l Church” in Liberty County, Ga.

In a book Dr. David Beebe furnished me, I read some pertinent historical facts of the Christian MISSION in Georgia:

“The development and Colonial history of religion in the South is revealed in the contrast between Virginia, the first colony, and Georgia, the last. From the beginning in Va., the Church of England was the Establishment, which dominated the life and the colony until the Revolution and the disestablishment. In Ga., the story was

(Cont. on P. 3)



Seymour Called To Belvidere

Rev. Collie Seymour began his ministry at the United Church of Christ in Belvidere, Tenn., September 1, 1974. He had served as pastor of St. Paul's Church in China Grove and Keller Church in Kannapolis, N. C., for the past six years.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Seymour are natives of Georgia. He had served pastorates in the former Southeast Convention, now Southeast Conference, and has been in the Southern Conference for a number of years.

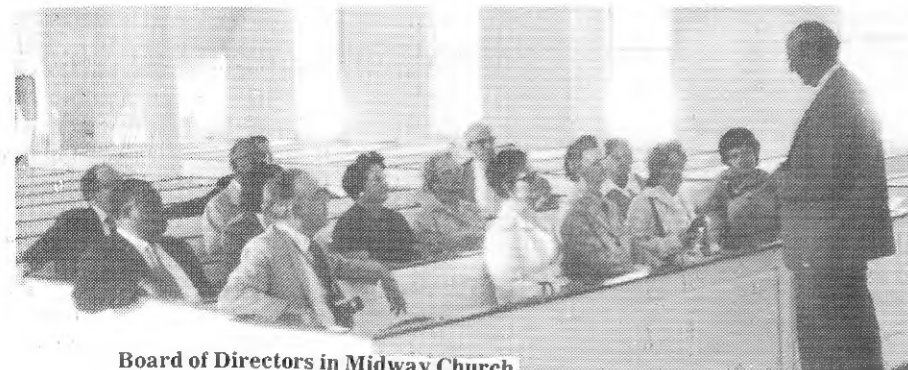
A graduate of Vanderbilt Divinity School, Mr. Seymour is no stranger to the Ala.-Tenn. Association Area.

We welcome the Seymour family back to the Southeast Conference and especially to the Belvidere Church.

Tuttle Selected by Birmingham Pilgrim

Rev. Henry W. Tuttle, presently the pastor of Huntsville United Church, has been called to the Pilgrim United Church of Christ, Birmingham, Alabama. He will begin his services there as of January 26, 1975.

Coming to Huntsville from Florida, “Hank” has served the church there for 4 years. He also served churches in the New England area, as well as in Florida.



Board of Directors in Midway Church

CHANGES MADE IN EAST ALABAMA

James Smith, a ministerial student at LaGrange College and student minister of the Jones Chapel Church, Woodbury, Ga., was recognized.

Wayne Moseley, also a ministerial student at LaGrange College and student minister at Lowell Church, Roanoke, Ala., was recognized.

Alton Nixon, a licensed minister of the South Alabama-Northwest Florida Association and recently elected pastor of the First Church, Phenix City, Ala., was received into the Association and granted license.

Milton Lenoir, lay pastor of Phenix City,

Russell Woods Church, was received into the Association and granted license.

Licenses for Allen Osborne, Bernard Fuller, Terry Clark and O. H. Armstrong were continued.

James E. Cowlshaw Jr., pastor of Langdale Church, transferred his ministerial standing from Ala.-Tenn. Association.

Douglas G. Hook, Executive Director of the National Conference of Christians and Jews in Columbus, Ga., transferred his ministerial standing from the North Dakota Conference.

John Rhodes, now serving a church in

North Carolina, transferred his standing to the Southern Conference.

Johnny Young resigned as pastor of Corinth Church. Terry Clark resigned as associate pastor of United Church, LaGrange, Ga.

Graham Norris, formerly pastor of Rock Stand and Bethany Churches near Roanoke, Ala., has accepted the Union Church, Mt. Creek, Ala.

Bernard Fuller resigned from Dadeville, Elder Church to serve Noonday Church in Wedowee, Ala.

E. G. Clark resigned from Antioch Church near Roanoke, Ala., to serve the Bethany Church.

Ralph Worley is serving only Pleasant Grove Church, near Roanoke, Ala.

Frank McCook serves as pastor of Oak Grove Church, Pine Mountain, Ga.

The Noonday Church at Wedowee, Ala., has sold its building to be moved a short distance and to be converted into a community building. The church plans to erect a new building in the near future.

Lowell Church, Roanoke, Ala., is considering a move to a new location.

The Lay Ministry program began its first training course April 15, 1974, with Dr. Charles F. McCook teaching a six-session course on "Introduction to the Old Testament." 37 persons from 11 churches enrolled. A second course, "Understanding the Literature of the Old Testament," began this fall with 27 enrolled.

Laymen who have preached in a number of pulpits are: J. K. Murphy, Oak Grove Church; Fred Morris of Hillside Church; Ed Lauderdale and Arthur Dailey of Lanett Church.

The Jones Chapel Church of Woodbury, was received into the Association from Ga.-S. C. Association.

First Sunday in New Sanctuary at Bonanza

And the people came! Will we ever have another experience like Sunday, Sept. 15, 1974? This Sunday was the high point in my ministry, for on this day many of us experienced what we had prayed for, worked for, and lived for. Who would deny that the "Spirit of God was upon us" on that day? As I looked out over the congregation on that Sunday I did not see any dry eyes in the congregation for we all had tears of happiness.

One of the things that I appreciate about our church is our "togetherness" and the closeness in worship. We will have many visitors to come and see our new facilities. It is up to us to make a lasting impression on them.

L. Floyd Carmack, Pastor

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39 U. S. C. 3626 provides in pertinent part: "No person who would have been entitled to mail matter under former section 4359 of this title shall mail such matter at the rates provided under this subsection unless he files annually with the Postal Service a written request for permission to mail matter at such rates." In accordance with the provisions of this statute, I hereby request permission to mail the publication named in Item 1 at the reduced postage rates presently authorized by 39 U. S. C. 3626.		
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I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.		

Roanoke Area Forms Youth Cluster Group

A youth cluster group, similar to those already active in surrounding parts of the Southeast, has recently been organized in the Roanoke, Al. area. Ten out of fourteen Congregational Christian Churches are represented in this group, which had its first meeting the last of June.

The cluster group, thus far unnamed, has established three main goals: (1) It is hoped that participation in the group will strengthen fellowship among the youth of the churches of Roanoke and surrounding areas. (2) The group will present programs at a youth interest level to develop an understanding of its members' personal encounters with Christ. (3) Strengthen the identity of the youth of the United Church.

Newly-elected officers of the group are: President, Billy Worley, Pleasant Grove Christian Church; Vice-President, Cathy Duffie, Lowell Christian Church; Secretary, Robbie Windsor, New Hope Church; Treasurer, Denise Treadwell, Rock Stand Church.

The group has held monthly meetings since June and has been involved in several different activities. A baseball game, an ice-cream picnic, and planned programs were all attended by an average of about thirty-five young people and counselors.

The infant group's most recent activity was an all-day trip to Stone Mountain Park, just out of Atlanta, Ga., on Sept. 21. About 25 youths enjoyed a fun-packed autumn picnic and, for some, even a long hard climb up the mountain trail.

The group hopes to continue to grow in attendance, activity, and spiritual sharing. Through these things, the cluster group hopes to become successful in its goals.

—Cathy Duffie, Vice-Pres.
Lowell C. C. Church

MRS. TILLMAN DIES

Miss Dora Brackin, a member of the Board of Directors of the Southeast Conference and a member of the Blackwood Church at Headland, Ala., recently sent to the Conference office the news that Mrs. W. H. Tillman died on Sept. 12, 1973. Her husband, Rev. W. H. Tillman had died in 1942. Both are buried in the Oak Grove cemetery at Americus, Georgia.

Mr. Tillman was trained for the ministry at the Atlanta Theological Seminary. He had a long pastorate in Crestview, Florida, and in other N. W. Florida Congregational Churches. For a while he was the pastor-at-large in that area. He also served some of the South Alabama churches during his ministry.

The Tillmans are survived by a son, Fred, and two grandchildren of Crestview, Florida.



Ala-Tenn Association Meets at Cullman

Meeting this year at St. John's United Church in Cullman, Alabama, on Saturday, September 28, the Ala-Tenn Association Annual Meeting was enlivened by the participation of some 80 delegates, visitors and friends representing eighteen churches in the Association.

St. John's proved to be a most congenial site for this year's Association meeting. Besides the comfortable arrangements made for the Executive Committee meeting on Friday night, the Association was treated to two very fine meals, prepared by members of St. John's. Music from the church's own gospel group, the Revelations, along with an afternoon organ recital were also enjoyed by the delegates. In unity, the meeting was concluded through the celebration of communion.

Pertinent business included the formation of an Enabler Search Committee to fill the post recently vacated by Rev. James Cowlshaw, who recently accepted the call of the Langdale, Alabama Church. The Association Enabler is a part-time position designed to facilitate Conference and Association business.

Acting on behalf of the United Church of Christ, the Association granted "Privilege of Call" to Rev. James Tuohy, a former Roman Catholic priest now living in Huntsville, Alabama.

Visiting Ministers At Lanett

On Sunday, October 13, the Rev. Warren Blankenhorn was guest minister. On that Sunday the pastor and his wife, Rev. and Mrs. H. N. Auler Jr., participated in the 125th Anniversary celebration of Grace United Church of Christ in Stone Creek, Ohio.

On Sunday, October 20th, the Rev. William Hodnett filled the pulpit at Lanett.

Deer Lodge Mini-Youth

October 4-6 were the dates for the youth Mini-Conference held at Deer Lodge Congregational Church, Deer Lodge, Tenn. The theme of the conference was "Put 'em Together."

Senior Citizens' Night Was Great Success

SENIOR CITIZEN'S NIGHT at Langdale Church was a great success. After a welcome and devotion by Bro. Jim Cowlshaw we were blessed with a grand turkey dinner with all the fixin's. Our guests: Woody Hill, Jr. Norred, and Willie McGill gave us a wonderful program of those old-timey numbers that we used to kick up our heels to — Jr. playing the tamborines "mostly in the key of 'C'", Woody on the guitar and harmonica, and Willie on the violin and the piano (not both at the same time). There were a lot of happy faces and warm, warm fellowship.

—Langdale Newsletter

Lowell Women To Adopt Child

Seventeen ladies met at the home of Mrs. Wayne Moseley on Sept. 9 for the monthly meeting of the Missionary Society of the Lowell Congregational Christian Church, Roanoke, Ala.

Mrs. Clyde Pike and Mrs. Herbert Pike gave an interesting program on "We — Not They."

The Society voted to adopt one child in Children, Incorporated.

Meditation at Ala-Tenn

(Cont. from P. 1)

one of Christian concern, for the needy, and the oppressed and of liberty of conscience for all groups from the time of their arrival.

The first orphanage and the first S. S. were founded here, and strong currents of religious thought flowed thru Georgia."

Two signers of the Declaration of Independence were members of this Midway Church and as the Colony of Ga. didn't have the funds to send them to the Continental Congress in Philadelphia, the Midway Church financed their trip.

In another area of our Conference, some 75 or 80 years ago a young farmer became a lay-preacher, later a minister. In 20 odd years of ministry, he founded over 20 new churches. Many of these churches are still alive and well today.

In the deliberations of this 1974 Association, will you be inspired to return to your home church with dedication "to fight the good fight, run the race and not look to what lies behind but ever press onward to the goal that lies ahead?"

— Warren Blankenhorn
Sept. 28, 1974

CHURCHES AND MINISTERS IN THE NEWS

The picnic for all churches of the East Alabama Association, sponsored by the Area Men's Fellowship, was a great success. About 200 attended and the fellowship, fun, and eating together were just great. The evening service as the sun was setting was inspiring. Good singing was led by Willy McGill. Two guitars, a flute and an accordion provided accompaniment. Ed Lauderdale gave an inspiring message.

John Jackett is the new Youth Worker in the Cullman St. John's Church. John is a college student in Birmingham, but lives in Cullman. George Fidler is pastor.

Larry Balleine, Box 207, Robbins, Tenn. 37852, is a ministerial student at Vanderbilt Divinity School and is serving his intern year as pastor of the Robbins Parish — Robbins, Glenmary, and Deer Lodge Churches. He also works closely with the Morgan-Scott project for Cooperative Christian Concerns. Rev. Robert A. Butziger is Director of the project.

Installation Services for the following ministers will be held:

Stephen C. Gray, pastor of the Brookmeade Congregational Church (UCC), in Nashville, on Sunday, November 10, at 4:00 P. M. (CST).

Collie Seymour, pastor of the United Church of Christ at Belvidere, Tenn., Sunday, December 1, 1974, at 3 P. M. (CST).

The Bonanza United Church of Christ will dedicate their new building and facilities Sunday, Nov. 3, 1974, at 11 A. M. The church is located on U. S. 41 and 19, south of Jonesboro, Ga., in the Bonanza community. L. Floyd Carmack is the pastor.

Pilgrim Church, Chattanooga, observed Laity Sunday, October 13, 1974, using the theme, "Strangers No Longer". Those assisting Dr. David Beebe in the service were: Mrs. Andrew Frierson Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Lauderdale, Mrs. Roger McAvoy, and Dr. Carter Pate.

Roland Kampmeier, member of Pilgrim Church, Chattanooga, was recently selected by Dr. Robert Moss, president of the United Church of Christ, to chair a new committee on World Hunger.

The congregation of Nashville, First Evangelical and Reformed Church voted to permit their pastor, Rev. Allen B. Hollis Jr., to enroll in the Doctor of Ministries program at Vanderbilt Divinity School.



Brookmeade Plans Celebration After Workday

November 10 has been slated as a "Day of Celebration" by the members of Brookmeade Congregational Church, Nashville, Tenn. Scheduled exactly one year after the fire that destroyed their sanctuary, November 10 will be the occasion for the burning of the church mortgage, installation of their new pastor, Stephen C. Gray, and a party celebrating the continued life of the congregation after loss of one-half of their church facilities.

In preparation for this day of many

occasions, the church saw 49 of its members participate in two work days on September 21 and 22. Construction of a new kitchen, repainting of the educational building and parsonage were some of the tasks undertaken by the membership.

It is hoped that all of these projects will be completed by November 10, when all members of the Southeast Conference will be invited to rejoice with Brookmeade in its continuing ministry.

Where We Go From Here - 17/76

Following is the structure of the 17-76 campaign in the Southeast Conference from now to completion:

September 14 - October 2

Fall Information Dinners

October and November

Official Board Presentations in local churches. Churches are asked to do the following:

1. Take action to participate.
2. Set a goal for local campaign.
3. Appoint chairperson for local campaign.

December

Final work on Official Board Presentations for a few late churches.

Completion of Major Gifts appeal.

Early January

Area Training Meetings to prepare local 17-76 leadership to carry out an effective, successful 17-76 campaign in the local church.

Late January to Palm Sunday

The actual campaign in local churches. (Except those that have already begun their campaigns)

Easter to April 30

Final reports; closing down Area Office. Area Office closes April 30, 1975.

It's Working! 17/76

News from Dansalan College in the Philippines is encouraging. All of the seniors at the school passed their entrance examinations for advanced training. Dansalan was the only school in the Province to have a 100 percent passing record for seniors. The result has been a 100 percent increase in student enrollment this current academic year, from last year's low of 156 to 313 this year!

Dansalan is able to move ahead with its projected program of establishing a new Muslim-Christian Institute for understanding and interaction.

17-76 stands for \$17 million by '76.

OUR GOALS

National Challenge Goal	\$17,000,000
Southeast Conference	89,455

17/76 INFORMATION

Several church treasurers have written to ask how they should handle monies received for 17-76. These should be forwarded to the Conference office just as other denominational monies. You may elect to send monthly or quarterly, but be sure the check is marked "17-76".

If anyone needs information or materials in connection with the 17-76 Achievement Fund Campaign, please contact the Conference office.

WORD FROM THE INTERIM MINISTER

Arriving on Wednesday, September 19, we were met by Wallace Boothby, Chairman of the Pulpit Committee, who brought us to the manse.

We found the house sparkling with new paint inside and out, the kitchen just remodeled and the house adequately furnished for our needs.

Having read the history and observed the program of Pilgrim Church (Birmingham) through the years as a minister in the Southeast Conference, we know you have had strong leadership from ministers and laity, and we see every evidence of a loyal and sacrificial membership.

We can make this transitional period a rewarding experience, as together we work and pray to prepare for the next, and what could be, a most significant chapter in Pilgrim's Progress.

By mutual consent it was agreed that the pastoral relationship would not require full time service — but there are things to do. Let us in the spirit of Christ seek to discover and do the will of God and find fulfillment and joy in His service.

—Arnold Slater

REPLY

We have all had the chance to meet our new interim minister, Rev. Arnold Slater, and his wife Pauline. They left their lake-side home near Lake Chickamauga, Tenn., where they enjoy a peaceful life of fishing and gardening, to serve our congregation. His ministry will give our congregation a sense of continuity during this period of transition and pave the way for our new minister.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Slater are ex-moderators of the Southeast Conference and Mr. Slater is a past member of the Executive Council of the United Church of Christ.

—Pilgrim's Progress 10-74

Dr. Paul Reynolds Passes at Pleasant Hill

Dr. Paul R. Reynolds of Pleasant Hill, Tenn., died October 4, 1974, at Wharton Nursing Home, where he had been a patient for six years.

Born in Bushnell, Illinois, he attended Wabash and Ellsworth Colleges and received his Bachelor of Divinity degree from Chicago Theological Seminary. He completed an M. A. at Columbia and received the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Chicago Theological Seminary.

He is survived by his wife Charlotte, who lives in Pleasant Hill; two sons, and a daughter.

Following YMCA and Chaplaincy appointments, Dr. Reynolds served as field secretary of the Congregational Educational Society. In 1921 Dr. and Mrs. Reynolds were commissioned missionaries to North China for the American Board, working mostly in Religious Education, until 1935.

After returning to the States, Dr. Reynolds was Secretary of the Christian Education Division of the Congregational Churches. He served as pastor of Pleasant Hill Community Church from March, 1954 until he became ill in January, 1957. Even so, he was able to return to his duties to a limited degree, and he guided the church to the realization of its dream of moving into a new building on May 10, 1959. Following a heart attack in 1957, he served from that time until his death as pastor emeritus at Pleasant Hill.

A memorial service in memory of Dr. Reynolds was held at Pleasant Hill on October 13, at 2:00 P. M., when friends and relatives participated in paying tribute to his life.

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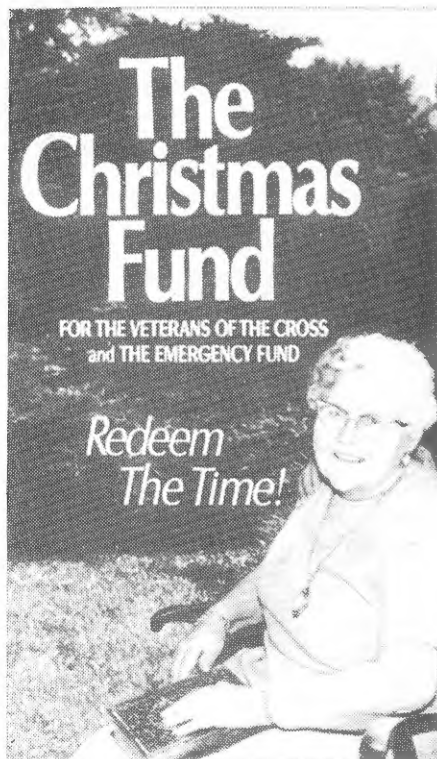
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The Christmas Fund

FOR THE VETERANS OF THE CROSS
and THE EMERGENCY FUND

Redeem
The Time!

and concern.

The Christmas Fund administered by The Pension Boards also helps throughout the year some who actively serve. Ministers and their families hurt by illness, accident, or other tragedy beyond their own resources, are given practical help from the Emergency Fund.

The poster subjects are the Rev. Paul Wobus and Olga Kruse Wobus, now retired in Missouri, after a distinguished ministry.

Christmas Fund materials, including free posters, folders and offering envelopes, will be sent automatically to all churches in November. Only supplies needed in addition to those in the packets sent to the churches, should be ordered from the Pension Boards—United Church of Christ, 297 Park Avenue South, New York, N. Y. 10010, who handle the Christmas Fund and emergency assistance.

—Don Bundy

The 2nd Revised Edition

The 2nd revised edition of the HISTORY AND PROGRAM OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (EC-DPP-0974-30M) may be ordered from:

Central Distribution Service
P. O. Box 7286
St. Louis, Mo. 63177

Prices are: 1-9 copies, 50c each; 10 or more, 45c each.

The Christmas Fund theme for 1974 is based on St. Paul's advice to "redeem the time." Ministers now retired see time in a new light. Some of these senior servants of the church have special need brought on by age or poor health or loss of a husband or wife. The Christmas Fund sends checks and Christmas greetings in the name of the church to carry our affection

